

Message Text

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73 L

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 IO-15 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03 SS-15

RSC-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 L-03 DODE-00 PRS-01

TRSE-00 OMB-01 EB-11 COME-00 COA-02 MBFR-04 SAJ-01

DRC-01 /122 W

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R 091455Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2804

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR JA UR

SUBJ: TANAKA-BREZHNEV SUMMIT BEGINS

REF: TOKYO 13014

1. SUMMARY: BREZHNEV SPEECH AT WELCOMING BANQUET FOR TANAKA SEEMED TO AIM FOR MODERATE RESULTS, NOT BREAKTHROUGH, IN SOVIET-JAPANESE RELATIONS KEY ISSUES OF NORTHERN TERRITORIES AND SOVIET ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY IDEA WERE NOT MENTIONED BY EITHER BREZHNEV OR TANAKA. ALTHOUGH BOTH SPEAKERS MENTIONED GOAL OF PEACE TREATY. TANAKA SEEMED TO LAY MORE STRESS ON THIS THAN BREZHNEV. END SUMMARY.

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2. THROUGHOUT BREZHNEV'S OCTOBER 8 BANQUET REMARKS THERE WAS

A TONE OF RESERVE ABOUT POSSIBLE IMPROVEMENT IN SOVIET-JAPANESE RELATIONS, EVIDENTLY REFLECTING HIS WISH NOT TO SET SIGHTS TOO HIGH. FOR EXAMPLE, HE SAID THERE WERE "SOME HOPES" OF IMPROVEMENT, THAT THE TWO COUNTRIES HAD "NOT A BAD BASIS" FOR IMPROVEMENT BUT TASK COULD HARDLY BE ACCOMPLISHED "AT ONE STROKE," AND THAT DIFFERENCES COULD BE NARROWED AND SPHERE OF AGREEMENT WIDENED. ON A MORE UPBEAT NOTE, BREZHNEV LAUDED TANAKA'S ENERGY AND COMPETENCE IN AFFAIRS OF STATE-WHICH MIGHT BETRAY EFFORT TO HELP TANAKA'S DOMESTIC POSITION OF SUMMIT RESULTS PROVE MEAGER.

3. BREZHNEV STEERED CLEAR OF ASIAN COLLECTIVE-JAPANESE RELATIONS WITH BROADER QUESTIONS OF ASIA POLICY. TANAKA IN TURN SAID NOTHING ABOUT TERRITORIAL CLAIMS. WE ASSUME THESE TWO QUESTIONS ARE HIGH ON AGENDA OF TALKS OCTOBER 8 AND 9 IN WHICH BREZHNEV HEADS SOVIET TEAM, AND THEY MAY BE DEALT WITH IN FINAL COMMUNIQUE. CONCLUSION OF PEACE TREATY WAS ENDORSED BY BOTH BREZHNEV AND TANAKA IN SPEECHES, BUT BREZHNEV MERELY CITED IT AS AN IMPORTANT MEANS OF CEMENTING RELATIONS WHILE TANAKA SEEMED TO TREAT IT AS KEYSTONE FOR FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF RELATIONS.

4. ALTHOUGH BOTH LEADERS ALLUDED TO ECONOMIC COOPERATION, THEY DID NOT DEAL SPECIFICALLY WITH SUCH QUESTIONS AS JOINT PROJECTS, SIBERIAN DEVELOPMENT, OR FISHERIES.
DUBS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: willialc
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973MOSCOW12386
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731043/aaaabfvr.tel
Line Count: 89
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: TOKYO 13014
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: willialc
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28-Aug-2001 by boyleja>; APPROVED <21-Nov-2001 by willialc>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TANAKA-BREZHNEV SUMMIT BEGINS
TAGS: PFOR, JA, UR, (TANAKA, KAKUEI), (BREZHNEV, LEONOID)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005